

Millen Fish Co., Inc.



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111 Harvey Street • Millen, Georgia 30442 • (912) 982-4989

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April 19, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA 305)
Food & Drug Administration
5630 Fisheries Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Re: Docket # 98P-0504

Dear FDA :

I am writting today to express my strong objection to costly and unnecessary rules which you have been asked to consider by the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

As someone who has worked in the seafood and oyster industry for years, I can tell you first hand of the economic damage these proposed rules would inflict upon us. Reduced demand would result in reduced activity in the industry. This would reduce fuel and equipment purchased by harvesters, container purchases by wholesalers, shippers and processors, the need for common carrier distributors, and would reduce business and income not only locally but in the industry as a whole.

The ripple effect of the proposed rules would have economic impact far beyond any benefit that would occur as a result of thier imposition on the industry. Consumers should have the right to choose between treated oysters and fresh oysters. The small number of people who may be at risk should heed the ample health warnings already in place where fresh oysters are sold, and assume thier own level of personal responsibility just as those who are diabetic must avoid sugar and those who are allergic to sulfites must avoid products which they are advised not to consume.

I urge the FDA to reject these crippling rules and allow other appropriate independent state and national bodies such as ISSC to continue their educational and oversight as they have in the past.

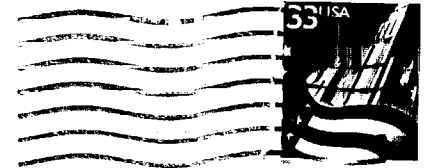
Sincerely,

David McMillan
President Millen Fish Co, Inc.

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